

Application No. 10/806,775
Amendment dated March 14, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 15, 2004

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Air-handling systems (also referred to as an air handler) have traditionally been used to condition buildings or rooms (hereinafter referred to as "structures"). An air-handling system is defined as a structure system that includes components designed to work together in order to condition air as part of the primary system for ventilation of structures. The air-handling system may contain components such as cooling coils, heating coils, filters, humidifiers, fans, sound attenuators, controls, and other devices functioning to meet the needs of the structures. The air-handling system may be manufactured in a factory and brought to the structure to be installed or it may be built on site using the necessary devices to meet the functioning needs of the structure. The air-handling compartment 102 of the air-handling system includes the inlet plenum 112 prior to the fan inlet cone 104 and the discharge plenum 110. Within the air-handling compartment 102 is situated the fan unit 100 (shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 as an inlet cone 104, a fan 106, and a motor 108), fan frame, and any appurtenance associated with the function of the fan (e.g. dampers, controls, settling means, and associated cabinetry). Within the fan 106 is a fan wheel (not shown) having at least one blade. The fan wheel has a fan wheel diameter that is measured from one side of the outer periphery of the fan wheel to the opposite side of the outer periphery of the fan wheel. The dimensions of the handling compartment 102 such as height, width, and airway length are determined by consulting fan manufacturers data for the type of fan selected.--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The fan unit chambers 244 shown in FIG. 17 may include one or more ~~one ore more~~ interior surface made from or lined with an acoustically absorptive material or "insulation surface" 248. Going against conventional industry wisdom that surfaces cannot be placed in close proximity with the fan units 200, the present invention places one or more insulation surfaces 248 at least partially around each fan unit 200 without disrupting air flow. The insulation surfaces 248 may include one or more of the sides, top, bottom, front, or back. Exemplary types of insulation include, but are not limited to traditional insulation board (such as that made from inorganic glass fibers (fiberglass) alone or with a factory-applied foil-scrim-kraft (FSK) facing or a factory-applied all service jacket (ASJ)) or alternative insulation such as open cell foam such as that disclosed in U.S. Patent Application No.10/606,435, which is assigned to the assignee of the present invention, and which the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein. Together, the insulation surfaces 248 on the fan unit chambers 244 tend to function as a coplanar silencer. Some of the benefits of using the coplanar silencer include (1) no added airway length for splitters, (2) no pressure drop, and/or (3) relatively low cost. The acoustic advantages of this and other embodiments make the present invention ideal for use in concert halls, lecture halls, performing arts centers, libraries, hospitals, and other applications that are acoustically sensitive.--